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We cannot do it if we diminish the funding and if we hold these various amendments nongermane or out of order when we are suffering all over this world. I would ask that the amendment be considered as in order.

The CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) seek to be heard briefly on the point of order?

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. I do, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Chairman, let me just say that when we say this is nongermane, it makes it appear as though the question of peacekeeping has never been raised. We have been talking about peacekeeping. We even had \$2.7 billion removed from the bill about peacekeeping, so we are simply saying that it seems to me that the ruling of the Chair that this is not germane when peacekeeping has actually been part of the appropriations process, it is to a large degree what we have been talking about.

We have been talking about it for Ethiopia and Eritrea, for the Democratic Republic of the Congo. We are talking about peacekeepers possibly in Angola. We are talking about peacekeepers now, after the diplomats have made the Lome accord that says this is the outline for peace in the region, when we had the Lusaka accord that says, this is what the diplomats have done for the Congo, now we need to bring the peacekeepers in to preserve the peace; the Lome accords for the peace in Sierra Leone.

So for them to be called nongermane when this has been the center of much of the discussion here, especially in Africa for the past 3 or 4 weeks, I just would urge that the Speaker reconsider the narrow interpretation, the strict construction that he has done in the interpretation, and look at it not in the specificity but in the fundamental of the general position of peacekeeping, which has been something that has been germane.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair is prepared to rule.

To be considered pursuant to clause 2(f) of rule XXI, an amendment must not propose to increase the level of budget authority or outlays in the bill. Because the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) proposes a net increase in the level of outlays in the bill, it may not avail itself of clause 2(f) to address portions of the bill not yet read.

Therefore, the point of order made by the gentleman from Alabama is sustained against the amendment.

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CALLAHAN) having assumed the chair, Mr. THORNBERRY, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration

the bill (H.R. 4811) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

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HOURLY MEETING ON TODAY

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns this legislative day, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

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ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, a point of inquiry. Mr. Speaker, when will the votes be taken tomorrow that had been rolled? Since we only have a few, is it possible we can begin with debate to give Members more time to get in here tomorrow morning, since we went so late tonight?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair is unable to answer that at this time, but would yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY), who possibly could shed some light.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, my understanding is that votes will be rolled in the morning until there are sufficient number of votes to make sense to bring Members over to cast a series of votes on amendments.

Ms. PELOSI. Although we have to be here obviously at 9 o'clock to begin the debate, as far as the other Members are concerned, it is not likely that our first vote will occur at 9 o'clock, but after we have a few more votes.

Mr. THORNBERRY. The gentleman is correct.

Ms. PELOSI. I would encourage that. I think that, again, since we have been here so late tonight, it would be great if Members could not have to be here at 9. They have other appointments, et cetera, in the morning, some funerals and things like that.

So while we debate, if they could have that time, it would be great. I thank the chairman.

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LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. CARSON (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of official business.

Mr. FORBES (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for July 10 through July 12 on account of illness.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 25 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until today, Wednesday, July 13, 2000, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8493. A letter from the Chairman of the Board, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Office's report on comparability of pay and benefits, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 18336; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

8494. A letter from the Chairperson, National Council on Disability, transmitting a report entitled, "Federal Policy Barriers to Assistive Technology," as required by the Assistive Technology Act of 1998; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

8495. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Procurement and Assistance Management, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—Greening the Government Requirements in Contracting—received June 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

8496. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Procurement and Assistance Management, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—DOE Authorized Subcontract for Use by DOE Management and Operating (M&O) Contractors with New Independent States' Scientific Institutes through the Science and Technology Center in the Ukraine—received June 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

8497. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Procurement and Assistance Management, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—DOE Administrative Class Deviation, 952.247-70, Foreign Travel, and 970.5204-52, Foreign Travel—received June 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

8498. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Security and Emergency Operations, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—Standardization of Firearms—received June 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

8499. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Security and Emergency Operations, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—Chapter 9, Public Key Cryptography and Key Management—received June 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

8500. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's "Major" rule—Revision of Fee Schedules; 100% Fee Recovery, FY 2000 (RIN: 3150-AG50) received June 9, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

8501. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's "Major" rule—Revision of Part 50, Appendix K, "ECCS Evaluation Models" (RIN: 3150-